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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/620,780

07/16/2003

Guido Peleman

BOCK-05/119

1124

26875

7590

07/24/2006

WOOD, HERRON & EVANS, LLP  
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EXAMINER

HENDERSON, MARK T

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3722

DATE MAILED: 07/24/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Response to Rule 312 Communication**

Application No.

10/620,780

Applicant(s)

PELEMAN, GUIDO

Examiner

Mark T. Henderson

Art Unit

3722

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

1. ☒ The amendment filed on 22 May 2006 under 37 CFR 1.312 has been considered, and has been:

a) ☐ entered.

b) ☐ entered as directed to matters of form not affecting the scope of the invention.

c) ☐ disapproved because the amendment was filed after the payment of the issue fee.

Any amendment filed after the date the issue fee is paid must be accompanied by a petition under 37 CFR 1.313(c)(1) and the required fee to withdraw the application from issue.

d) ☒ disapproved. See explanation below.

e) ☐ entered in part. See explanation below.

*Applicant has now introduced a product-by-process limitation ("locking means shaped to engage...by bending.."), in which the locking means is now defined by a functional limitation, which changes the scope of the claim. Furthermore, the patentability of a product does not depend on its method or production. If the product in the product-by process claim is the same as or obvious form a method of the prior art, the claim is unpatentable even though the prior art was made by a different process (see MPEP 2113)*

*Monica S. Carter*  
MONICA CARTER  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER